



# Improving the MPAG Processing

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# Topics

- **MPAG Review Scheduling System**
- **MPAG Scheduling Process Workflow**
- **Qualifying Requirements for MPAG Review Scheduling**
- **Example 1: Separate FCC ID's**
- **Example 2: Separate FCC IDs w/ Data Referencing**
- **MPAG Review Timeline**



## MPAG Review Scheduling System (I)

- Previously outlined **MPAG advanced scheduling** process finally going live in May 2023
- The process is to allow applicants to ask for a scheduled **response date** for (complex enough) MPAG reviews
- No additional tools required: process entirely managed **via KDB Inquiry tool**
- Process **already tested** in a “stealth” mode
- Suitable for large filings, and **months-ahead** product developments
- **Gained data** will drive improvements and allow for effectiveness evaluation



## MPAG Review Scheduling System (II)

- The general philosophy is to improve MPAG processing efficiency via **better resource allocation** thus leaving room also for conventional inquiries
- KDB Inquiry-based system to request FCC-scheduled **response date** on MPAG reviews
- Response is to provide **feedback** on MPAGs, **not necessarily approval**
- **Response dates** set by FCC, based on workload, and on a first-come, first-served basis
- Only MPAGs that meet **specific criteria** are eligible for this process (to avoid overload)



## MPAG Review Scheduling System (III)

- Provisions for scheduling an **additional feedback date** (up to a limit) when review **iterations** are needed, *e.g.*, when FCC requests additional information
- **Real-life test** of the overall functionality:
  - **Start date upon publication of Addendum** to KDB 388624 (May 2023)
  - Preliminary **trial period** planned for **one year**
  - May be discontinued/modified **at any time** (without affecting already submitted applications)



# MPAG Scheduling Process Workflow

## 1) TCB requests scheduling of MPAG review date

- TCB sends a KDB inquiry requesting a review date with information on number of devices (**number of FCC IDs**), number of applicable **PAG items**, date of **expected upload** of applications

## 2) FCC schedules a review date

- **Best effort** is made to meet the scheduled date, but it is **not binding**
- Any FCC delay, albeit expected to be small (*e.g.*, a few days), communicated a.s.a.p.
- **Not an assurance** for approvals: questions, requests, or denials are also possible

## 3) After the review

- Requests for additional information will come with a **new scheduled review date** for the additional feedback (factoring in the need for additional lab. time, if needed)
- At FCC discretion, **repeated review iterations** due to incorrect\insufficient information, may result in **no further date scheduling**, reverting to the standard process



# Qualifying Requirements for MPAG Review Scheduling

- MPAG **size** threshold: MPAG will consist of **at least four PAG items** (to avoid “clogging” the system with a multitude of small MPAGs)
- Scheduled review date: requests shall be presented **at least two calendar months** away from the planned **application upload** date.
  - **Example.** A request for MPAG scheduling comes in on February 3<sup>rd</sup>, the upload of applications by the TCB is scheduled by April 3<sup>rd</sup>.
  - This process may lead TCBs to opt for the “standard” process in many cases, while making this approach more suitable for **longer-term planned projects** not yet ready
- Requests shall include an **MPAG outline**: *e.g.*, device features, list of PAG items, variants from reference models, etc.
- Requests will not be considered **unless complete**.
- Each MPAG may relate to more than one FCC ID, but **only for identified variants of a reference model**, and for the purpose of **approved data referencing**



## Example 1: Separate FCC ID's

- Manufacturer is planning for the certification of a new device that consists of two models (“A” and “B”, w/different FCC IDs), to be **fully tested separately**
- TCB receives manufacturer’s preliminary documentation, **reviews it**, and **identifies** required PAGs, to qualify for the MPAG Scheduling
- TCB reports that model “A” has **four** separate PAG items, while model “B” requires two PAGs.
- The two devices are tested independently, therefore require two separate MPAGs
- TCB informs the manufacturer that only model “A” **qualifies** for a request for MPAG review scheduling (based on minimum **number of PAGs** per MPAG)





## Example 2: Separate FCC IDs w/ Data Referencing

- Manufacturer is planning for a new device certification that consists of two models, **a reference and a variant**, each with different FCC IDs, and with a KDB-accepted test **data referencing plan**
- A **single MPAG** can be filed for both the reference and variant
- TCB receives manufacturer's preliminary documentation, **reviews it**, and **identifies** required PAGs to qualify for the MPAG Scheduling
- TCB reports that model "A" has three separate PAG items, while model "B" requires only one PAG: the **combined** MPAG package with both models **qualifies** for MPAG Scheduling (based on the number of PAGs)
- TCB submits requests for MPAG review scheduling via KDB (there will be a **new MPAG Scheduling Category**) with the information about PAGs and FCC IDs



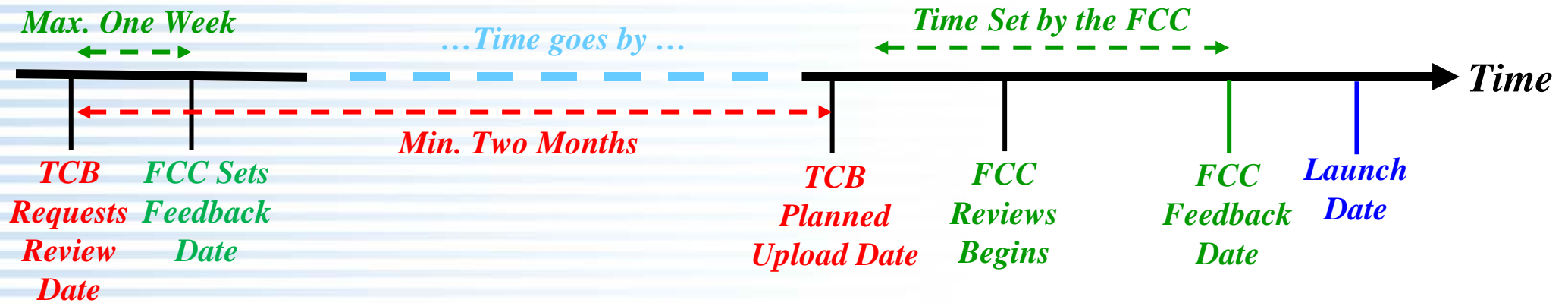
## MPAG Review Timeline

- TCB **requests** for MPAG **review scheduling** with KDB containing list of PAG items, device description(s), and planned **application upload date**
- FCC **responds** with estimated **scheduled date** for MPAG feedback
- Lab **testing data** are sent to the TCB
- TCB **reviews** lab tests for **correctness** and files full applications on or before the stated application upload date
- On the scheduled date for feedback, **FCC responds** with a request for clarification, along with a **new scheduled feedback date** (to account for time required to collect the information)
- After receiving clarifications, on the **new scheduled date**, FCC clears the PAGs for grant processing



## MPAG Review Timeline (II)

- **Notional timeline** for the MPAG scheduled review process
- To be formalized in KDB 388624 annex document
- PAG items and applicable variants (number of FCC IDs) **named at the time of initial request** of review date scheduling
- All exhibits need to be filed by the **TCB-planned upload** date





# Conclusions

- Advance MPAG scheduling going live (**May 2023**)
- Not all MPAG qualify, regular process is **not penalized**
- **Comments/suggestions** welcome
- Trial period (one year) to gain additional **feedback**
- Possible process **re-tuning** based on performance and feedback